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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10.036,467	01-07-2002	Jonas Ormin	LUND-0013	4917

7590 06-04-2003

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EXAMINER

DOLE, TIMOTHY J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2858

DATE MAILED: 06-04-2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/036,467

Applicant(s)

ORMIN, JONAS

Examiner

Timothy J. Dole

Art Unit

2858

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 October 2002 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☒ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Acknowledgment is made of Applicant's claim for foreign priority based on an application filed in Sweden on July 9 1999. It is noted, however, that Applicant has not filed a certified copy of the 99-2664-3 application as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b).

Oath/Declaration

2. The oath or declaration is defective. A new oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a) identifying this application by application number and filing date is required. See MPEP §§ 602.01 and 602.02.

The oath or declaration is defective because: the claim of foreign priority to application number 99-2664-3 incorrectly lists the filing date as 07/09/2000 when it should be 07/09/1999.

Drawings

3. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference sign(s) not mentioned in the description: (S) in fig. 3. A proposed drawing correction, corrected drawings, or amendment to the specification to add the reference sign(s) in the description, are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

4. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. Correction is required.

See MPEP § 608.01(b).

5. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: "sam" should be "same" on page 7, line 8.

Appropriate correction is required.

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ross in view of Segerstrom et al. (USPN 5,663,718).

Referring to claim 1, Ross discloses a device for the automatic control of joints in electrical high voltage lines, comprising: a first support (fig. 1 (14)); a first wheel (fig. 2 (34)) for lying on the line (fig. 2 (12)); a driving means (fig. 2 (22)) for driving of said first wheel; at least one second wheel (fig. 1 (71) and fig. 2 (36)), for lying on said line; a measurement unit (fig. 7 (70)) in contact with means for the measurement of physical data at said joint (column 3, line 65 – column 4, line 12), wherein at least one of said first

and second wheels is provided electrically connected to said measurement unit (column 4, lines 1-8).

Ross does not disclose the measurement unit comprises at least one pointed element for electrical contact with the line.

Segerstrom et al. discloses a device for the automatic control of joints in electrical high voltage lines with a measurement unit comprising at least one pointed element (fig. 1A (12) and (13)) for electrical contact with the line.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the pointed contacts of Segerstrom et al. into the device of Ross for the purpose of providing direct contact with the line being tested whereby leading to more accurate measurements (column 2, lines 37-41).

Referring to claim 2, Ross discloses the device as claimed wherein at least two of said first and second wheels are electrically connected to said measurement unit (column 3, line 65 – column 4, line 8).

Ross does not disclose the device further comprising: means for feeding current is provided to feed an electrical current from the first wheel to the second wheel through the line.

Segerstrom et al. discloses means for feeding current is provided (column 8, lines 37-38) to feed an electrical current from the first wheel to the second wheel through the line. It should be noted that since the wheels of Segerstrom et al. are at the same locations as the pointed elements, current could be fed into either the wheels or pointed elements without changing the results.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the current feeding means of Segerstrom et al. into the device of Ross for the purpose of additionally testing the line whereby leading to an improved analysis of its condition.

Referring to claim 3, Ross discloses the device as claimed except wherein the means for measurement of physical data in the form of one pointed element also comprise at least one of said first and second wheels.

Segerstrom et al. discloses means for measurement of physical data in the form of one pointed element also comprising at least one of said first and second wheels (column 8, lines 34-36). It should be noted that since the wheels of Segerstrom et al. are at the same locations as the pointed elements, data could be measured at any combination of the wheels and pointed elements without changing the results.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the current feeding means of Segerstrom et al. into the device of Ross for the same purpose as given in claim 2, above.

Referring to claims 4-6, Ross discloses the device as claimed, further comprising: a retainer (fig. 2 (40)), journaled in the support so as to be swung up below the line to increase pressure of the wheel against the line (column 3, lines 1-12).

Referring to claims 7-18, Ross discloses the device as claimed further comprising: measurement indicators for measurement of the position of the device in relationship to the actual joint, wherein the measurement indicator comprises a laser distance gauge (column 6, lines 65-67).

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8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The following patents are cited to show the state of the art with respect to testing high voltage power lines.

USPN 5,963,033 to Booker: This patent shows an apparatus for performing measurements on a conductor using wheels and a drive system for movement along the line.

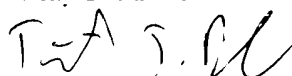
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Timothy J. Dole whose telephone number is 703-305-7396. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. thru Fri. from 8:00 to 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, N. Le can be reached on 703-308-0750. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9318 for regular communications and 703-872-9319 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

TJD
May 29, 2003



N. Le
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800